

similar to hers. Motives, which result in cruelty both to the bodies and minds of a large proportion of our fellow-men, are imputed to the Romish Church because she selects her clergy from her roll of infants and shuts them up in Theological Institutions and denies them many of the joys of religious freedom. But it is unfortunate that in many of our villages, the state of religion is so low, that Christian mothers are compelled to shut their children in from many of those privileges that contribute largely to the development of true man and womanhood.

The moral atmosphere of the village school is often not the most healthy. Children are in attendance from all kinds of homes and you cannot get a better test of the internal workings of the home, than the conduct of the children. While driving along a few Sabbaths ago in the country, I overtook a small boy, who got up to ride with me when the following conversation took place: Are you a Christian? Yes, said the boy. Are your father and mother? Yes, was the answer. Looking at the little fellow, I said: Do you know me? He answered no. Am I a doctor? He thought possibly I might be. Am I a tavern-keeper? No, was the immediate reply, because you are a Christian. Truth fits closely to the character of the children.

To the village-school come the children of the tavern-keeper, the swearer, the indolent, and side by side with them the innocent from the Christian home. Look at the group on the play-ground, in that catholicity of spirit which departs or is suppressed during the years of man and womanhood, but is characteristic of the man or woman who a second time becomes as a little child. The little folk talk of what their parents think, and say, and do, resulting in the introduction of evil thoughts, sinful habits and all sorts of street language into the purer homes.

The evil does not stop here. What is to be done for the young men of the village, and, we might include, the young men of the surrounding country who spend their Saturday nights in the village? These waste much of their time around the hotel, and it is needless to say that in such a locality, the influences are invariably of an evil character. The great problem,—how to introduce a system of moral training for the higher education of the youth of the village,—calls for a speedy solution by the Christian people.

There is a power in the world, the existence of which cannot for a moment be doubted, that is able to stem the tide of sin which threatens